



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

Poplar Island Restoration Project

Dredged Material Management Plan Public Scoping Meeting Information Sheet

Poplar Island

- Located in upper Middle Chesapeake Bay
- One mile northwest of Tilghman, Talbot County, MD
- In 1994, an interagency group studied the feasibility of using the remnants of this once 1100-acre island as a beneficial use project for dredged material from the navigation channels leading to the Port of Baltimore.
- By inception of project construction, island had eroded down to less than ten acres.

Rebuilding the Island

- Following necessary environmental studies, rebuilding of Poplar Island was determined to be viable with added benefit of restoring over 1000 acres of diverse habitat.
- 35,000 feet of containment dikes were built around the perimeter of the remnant islands to create the footprint of the restored island.
- Poplar Island was planned to provide into two habitat types: wetlands and uplands.
- Clean dredged material is pumped into the facility and allowed to dewater.
- Maximum placement capacity is ~ 33 million cubic yards over a sixteen year life of the project.
- Final project will restore 1140 acres of wetland and upland habitats.

Wildlife and Waterfowl Usage

- Spring 2001, first dredged material was placed. Ospreys, egrets, terns, herons, eagles and other wildfowl utilized the newly restored island.
- Once operations are completed, wetlands and uplands will mature and provide important island habitat.
- Wetlands will provide natural filter to improve water quality and valuable habitat for birds, crabs, fish and shellfish.
- Provides important contribution to restoration goals for the Chesapeake Bay.

Poplar Island's Future

- The island will continue to be closely monitored to ensure compliance with existing water quality standards as well as success in restoration of Bay island habitat.
- Upon completion, the State of Maryland will assume the long-term stewardship of Poplar Island.